

Message Text

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ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-01

INR-07 L-02 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 RSC-01 PRS-01 SP-02

SS-15 USIA-06 EB-07 PC-01 AID-05 IO-10 /086 W

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R 200854Z JAN 75

FM AMEMBASSY LOME

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 8760

INFO AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PARIS

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: ECON, TO

SUBJ: PRESIDENT EYADEMA DECREES TAX RELIEF, SALARY BOOST,
INCREASED SCHOLARSHIP RATES

REF: LOME 72

1. IN RADIO ADDRESS TO NATION EVE OF NATIONAL LIBERATION DAY,
WHICH STRESSED 1974 AS YEAR OF "ECONOMIC LIBERATION," PRESIDENT
EYADEMA ANNOUNCED FOLLOWING ECONOMIC DECISIONS: A) SUPPRESSION
OF NATIONAL HEAD TAX LEVIED ON PEASANTRY; B) SALARY INCREASES
OF 15 PERCENT FOR MANAGERIAL STAFFS AND HIGHER ECHELON OFFICIALS
("CADRES") AND 20 PERCENT FOR ALL OTHER EMPLOYEES ("AGENTS
SUBALTERNES"); C) INCREASE IN MAGNITUDE OF STUDENT
SCHOLARSHIPS OF 20 PERCENT FOR STUDENTS ENROLLED IN TOGOLESE
OR OTHER AFRICAN UNIVERSITIES AND 40 PERCENT FOR THOSE
ENROLLED IN NON-AFRICAN UNIVERSITIES.

2. COMMENT: WHILE EYADEMA CONTINUES TO BUILD HIS IMAGE WITH GIFTS
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OF MONEY TO PEASANTS, STUDENTS, BUREAUCRATS AND "ANIMATEURS", HE

IS ANTAGONIZING MANY OTHERS, INCLUDING MEMBERS OF HIS OWN GOVERNMENT, BY FAILING TO ADDRESS REAL ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT NEEDS. EVEN THOUGH TOGOLESE PHOSPHATE PRICES HAVE INCREASED FOURFOLD OVER PAST YEAR, PROVEN RESERVES ARE LIMITED AND THERE IS LITTLE IF ANY EXCESS INSTALLED PRODUCTIVE CAPACITY. IF EYADEMA INTENDS USE PHOSPHATE PROFITS -- PRESENTLY TOGO'S MAIN MONEY-MAKER -- FOR ANYTHING OTHER THAN SELF-AGGRANDISEMENT, HE WOULD DO WELL TO GET ON WITH JOB BEFORE DISSATISFACTION FUSES NOW-INCOHERENT DISCONTENT INTO COHESIVE OPPOSITION.

3. MEANWHILE, OLD STATUE OF CLEMENCEAU HAS BEEN REMOVED FROM PEDESTAL AT EYADEMA STADIUM, RPT CENTRAL COMMITTEE HAS JUST RECOMMENDED THAT EYADEMA BE PROCLAIMED "NATIONAL HERO" AND STATUE OF HIM BE ERECTED BY "VOLUNTARY NATIONAL SUBSCRIPTION" -- WE GUESS ON CLEMENCEAU'S PEDESTAL.

RAWLS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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05 JUL 2006

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